

53958 to 53977—Continued.

53975 and 53976. *RAPHANUS SATIVUS* L. Brassicaceæ. Radish.

53975. *Shogoin daikon*. 53976. *Miyashige daikon*.

53977. *SOLANUM MELONGENA* L. Solanaceæ. Eggplant.
Sandoicara naganasu.

53978. ORYZA SATIVA L. Poaceæ. **Rice.**

From Chefoo, Shantung, China. Seeds presented by A. Sugden, through Lester Maynard, American consul. Received August 5, 1921.

"Glutinous rice which I got about 60 miles inland, which is said to be specially good of its kind." (*Sugden*.)

53979. TRITICUM AESTIVUM L. Poaceæ. **Common wheat.**
(*T. vulgare* Vill.)

From Chefoo, Shantung, China. Presented by A. Sugden. Received August 6, 1921.

"Shantung is a bread-producing place. The bread is made chiefly from wheat straw, and I am sending you a sample of the straw and some seeds of the wheat from which the straw is produced." (*Sugden*.)

53980. COLOCASIA ESCULENTA (L.) Schott. Araceæ. **Taro.**

From Buitenzorg, Java. Tubers presented by Dr. W. M. Docters van Leeuwen, director, Botanic Garden. Received August 8, 1921.

"The variety *Talus Ketan* is softer and esteemed more highly than the ordinary form of taro." (*Dr. J. J. Smith, acting director*.)

"A taro having petioles of an even pale green; blade shaded with lighter and darker green, without petiolar spot. The plant produces slender rhizomes which run on the surface of the ground." (*R. A. Young*.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 21263.

53981 and 53982.

From Foochow, Fukien, China. Seeds presented by C. R. Kellogg, Fukien Christian University. Received August 11, 1921.

53981. *MEDICAGO LUPULINA* L. Fabaceæ.

Yellow trefoil, a native of Europe and Asia, is often called *black medic* from the fact that its seed pods when ripe are black.

In addition to supplying the soil with humus and available nitrogen for the use of succeeding crops, the green plants form an excellent cover for the otherwise bare ground during the winter, thus retarding the gullying action and erosion of the winter rains. When turned under for soil improvement, a marked effect can usually be noted in the yields of the succeeding crops. Yellow trefoil is better adapted for pasturage than for hay, owing to its tendency to lodge, even when grown in a comparatively thick stand. All kinds of stock do well on yellow-trefoil pasture, since it furnishes very nutritious grazing. (Adapted from note by J. M. Westgate and H. S. Coe.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 31395.

53982. *MYRICA RUBRA* Sieb. and Zucc. Myricaceæ. **Yang mae.**

"The beautiful dark-purple fruits are the size of crab apples and can be eaten out of hand or made into compotes, pies, sirup, and wine. There is great variation in the habit and productivity of the trees and also in the color, size, and taste of the fruits. The trees are evergreen and thrive best in well-drained rocky terraces. The localities that will best suit them in the United States will probably be the southern sections of the Gulf Coast States and the milder parts of California. Chinese name *yang mae*." (*F. N. Meyer*.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 48000.